

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MAY 16, 2013

2014 Budget

Public Safety Budget Holds Line As Crime Dramatically Drops

by Diane Oberg

At its May 8 worksession, the Greenbelt City Council met with representatives of the police and fire departments to consider the proposed Public Safety Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, which begins July 1. Reviewed were the police department and the city's contribution to local volunteer fire departments. Two other Public Safety budgets along with traffic control and animal control were reviewed respectively, along with the Public Works and Planning and Community Development budgets.

At \$10,080,400, Public Safety accounts for over 40 percent of total proposed city expenditures and is essentially unchanged from that of the current fiscal year's budget of \$10,067,300. Projected current year expenditures are running about two

percent over budget.

Fire and Rescue

The Fire and Rescue account covers contributions to the Berwyn Heights and West Lanham Hills Fire Departments and contributions to a reserve fund that can be used to support the purchase of equipment by the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad (GVFDRS).

City Manager Michael McLaughlin's proposed budget keeps all three contributions unchanged from Fiscal Year 2013: \$5,000 each for Berwyn Heights and West Lanham Hills and \$88,000 for the equipment reserve fund. GVFDRS President Brian Rudy told council that funds available from the county department's ambulance billing will be used sometime during calendar 2013 to purchase the

next fire engine.

In 2012 the fire department had total expenses of \$69,621 and total income of \$67,006. The annual fund drive produced the largest source of revenue, totaling \$37,537.

Unfortunately, the department lost more than \$5,000 on bingo, a loss their consultant attributes to local casinos. The department will review the bingo operations in June to determine whether to continue holding these events.

Other fundraisers, including hall rental, brought in \$14,598.

Rudy stressed that the department does not do telephone or door-to-door solicitation but relies solely on its mailed contribution requests.

Rudy also reported that the department has been selected to host the county's annual September convention of fire departments with contests, competitions, a parade and dinner.

See **CRIME**, page 6

2014 Budget

Recreation Budget Covers Lots of Ground, Programs

by Kathleen Gallagher

Although 40 percent of all General Fund expenditures in the city budget are attributable to public safety, the Recreation Department crosses the finish line in a respectable second place at 20 percent, including funding for both recreation and parks, which totals \$4,969,100 in the proposed Fiscal Year 2014 budget, an increase of 1.4 percent over the Fiscal Year 2013 adopted budget. A look through the department's quarterly activity guide demonstrates that Recreation is responsible for programming for Greenbelters who range in age from less than 1 to more than 101.

On April 29 the city council held its Fiscal Year 2014 budget worksession with the Department of Recreation. All councilmembers were present for this fifth worksession of the budget season as were City Manager Michael McLaughlin and City Treasurer Jeffrey Williams, Recreation Director Julie McHale, Assistant Director Joseph McNeal and Acting Assistant Director Greg Varda represented the department.

Recreation delivers more than 400 programs annually. Overall program and facility revenues have been inching up as a proportion of expenditures. Currently revenues cover an average of 34 percent of expenditures with considerable variation among programs.

FY13 Accomplishments

The city council reviewed the recreation section of the budget page by page, starting with the department's reported accomplishments. More than 150 accomplishments were listed. Mercifully, McHale narrowed the field and selected several to highlight, including expanded swim classes at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center (GAFC), stagecraft classes at Creative Kids Camp, new archery and tennis classes at the Youth Center and Braden tennis courts, expansion of the active aging program throughout the city, expanded training for both full-time and part-time staff and formation of a marketing

See **REC. BUDGET**, page 6

Sci-Tech Club125 Opened May 6 in Roosevelt Center

by Cindy Henneberger

Club125 opened May 6 in Roosevelt Center with a fanfare of balloons, robots in motion and techno gadgets. One week later the club started regular hours, said President George Boyce.

Technology and electronics abounded at the club's opening but the night's most audible component was the buzz of children, teens and adults chatting as they scurried to snap together electric circuits, work on robotics and watch themselves on an electric train cam.

"Tonight's most common questions are, 'Does the robot really solve the Rubik's Cube?' and do we get to play with helicopters?'" said club Vice President Eva Fallon.

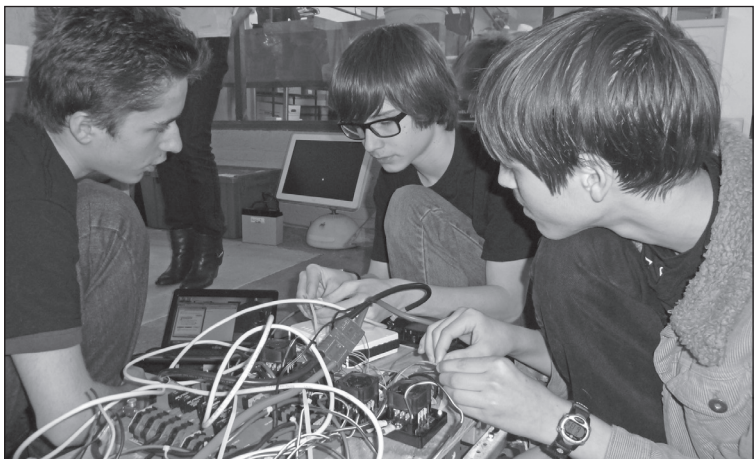
The answers were yes and yes.

A robot on a table rotated colored blocks, matching yellows with yellows and reds with reds. The space's ceilings are high enough for remote-control helicopters to fly, Fallon said.

The husband-and-wife team of Boyce and Fallon want Club125 to be a community activity center where busy minds can bring their creations to life. But the club is not for science and technology devotees alone; the makerspace aims to draw artists, crafters, environmentalists and strategic game players, among others.

Its regular hours will be 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week but the club will likely expand and start opening from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. by the week of

See **CLUB125**, page 12



Members of robotics Team Illusion Joe Buckley (16), Reed Bolger (14) and Kent Kyler (16) work on the 4-wheel drive train that forms the base of their latest Frisbee-throwing robot.

News Review Ad Rate Changes Coming

Effective June 1, 2013, the News Review will increase its advertising rates. The basic rate for display advertising will change from \$8.95 to \$9.60 per column inch. Similar increases will be applied to all our volume-based discounts, as well.

Classified and subscription rates will remain unchanged.

What Goes On

Tuesday, May 21

7:30 p.m., Council Worksession with Contribution Groups, Municipal Building

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Confidential Information, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov (this meeting was originally scheduled for Monday, May 20)

Wednesday, May 22

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 114

8 p.m., Council Budget Worksession, Final Budget Review, Community Center

Thursday, May 23

7:30 p.m., GDC and GHI Board of Directors Meeting, GHI Administration Building

Old Greenbelt Theatre Wins \$75K Preservation Funding

by Peter Curtis and Altoria Bell Ross

American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation announced this week that the Old Greenbelt Theatre was one of the several winners and will be awarded \$75,000 in the \$1 million Partners in Preservation campaign that ended May 10. One of the region's first preservation efforts on social media, the theater, along with 23 other regional historic sites, was selected from over 100 applicants.

From April 24 through May 10 supporters of each of these sites had competed for points by website votes, Twitter posts, Instagram photos and Foursquare check-ins. The Greenbelt Theatre came in fifth place with 522,860 votes from the community over the past three weeks. The theatre will use the funds to renovate its art deco lobby.

"This was a wonderful example of a successful grassroots community project!" said Barbara Simon, president, Friends of the Old Greenbelt Movie Theatre and Greenbelt Community Development Corporation (GCDC). She said the theater renovations had deserved to win the money, not only based on the votes, but because the project is "historically worthwhile."

Effective Campaign

Simon credits the city and its staff for waging an effective

campaign and the theater's management and staff for collaborating it and the Greenbelt Library for passing out "bookmarks" reminding people to vote. GCDC supplied the bookmarks that also were used at the movie theater to hand to ticket purchasers. Simon additionally praises the individual Greenbelters who voted and who had told their relatives and friends living elsewhere to vote, along with movie theatre patrons who live outside the city.

"It has been inspiring to see the tremendous support local preservationists have shown for their favorite historic places in the Washington area and a pleasure to bring this program to the Trust's hometown," said Stephanie Meeks, president, National Trust for Historic Preservation. "In the months to come, we look forward to sites undertaking preservation projects in our backyard with Partners in Preservation grant funding and using the promotional tools and resources they have gained from the program."

Greenbelt expects to begin the Old Greenbelt Theatre preservation project in upcoming months. More information on that project is available from the city's director of Planning and Community Development by emailing

See **THEATRE**, page 7

Letters to the Editor

THANKS!

I am grateful to Donna Hoffmeister for her detailed, affectionate homage to Greenbelt’s beloved Doug Love. So many of us will miss him so much.

Jim Link

School Referendum Petition Underway

On June 1, without voter input or community discussion, a new law abruptly passed by the state legislature to dramatically change the governance structure of the Prince George’s County Public School system is scheduled to come into effect.

The first hearing on House Bill 1107 was held Good Friday in Annapolis, 10 days before the end of session. The second and final hearing was held three days later. The bill passed five days after that. Yet the bill was not available online until the day after the legislative session ended.

In addition to the flawed process in the passing of this law, the convoluted governance structure that this law establishes is flawed and unproven. It exists nowhere in the nation and for good reason.

No longer are superintendent candidates for Prince George’s County Public Schools to be determined locally. Instead the law provides that a new search committee appointed by the governor and state superintendent will dictate which three applicants can be considered. No longer is the superintendent to be selected by the elected school board, but instead by the county executive. But while the county executive selects, the law stipulates that the county board appoints the superintendent, now called the chief executive officer, and that the school board chair negotiates the contract with that individual.

No longer will the school board take public input and make a determination on the superintendent’s recommendations and the direction of the school system. Under the new law, the new chief executive officer is

empowered to make decisions with impunity. He/she is under no obligation to engage the public in decision-making. The law further disenfranchises the public by specifically providing for the chief executive officer’s authority in the closing of schools.

The nine-member, voter-elected board is expanded with four appointed members. Three are to be appointed by the county executive and one by the county council. This expanded board can override the chief executive officer’s decisions only by a 2/3 vote. Additionally, the county executive selects the new board’s chair and vice-chair. Vacancies are no longer filled by the voters but are county executive appointments.

This law is an assault and forceful seizure of our voting rights. Centralizing of power and authority in the school system’s governance structure and the diluting of the authority of the voter-elected school board is occurring without voter consent.

In Maryland voters reserve the right to determine issues directly through the referendum process, a component of the legislative process. Because of the serious consequences and dramatic impact of this new law, a referendum petition on House Bill 1107 is underway to place it on the ballot at an election for voter approval or rejection. This will allow voters to decide whether the authority and power in decision-making of the education of our children is best in the hands of one person and whether to agree to dilute their right.

I encourage you to sign the referendum petition and work to get other Prince Georgians to sign, even if it is among your family and friends. By May 31, 7,700 Prince Georgians’ signatures are needed in order for this petition to move forward. If that is successful, then by June 30, a total of 23,500 (includes May signatures) Prince Georgians’ signatures are needed. Let yours be one.

Peggy Higgins
Greenbelt resident
School Board representative

Upcoming Events At New Deal Café

On Thursday, May 16 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., followed in the evening by an open microphone session with Joe Harris from 7 to 9 p.m.

From 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Friday, May 17 John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano then ilyAIMY plays hyperspeed guitar until 11 p.m.

On Saturday, May 18 Bruce Kritt plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m. John Guernsey performs up-tempo jazz piano from 6 to 8 p.m., followed from 8 to 11 p.m. by headliner Bud Skeleton and an eclectic mix of blues standards, Stones, Queen and more.

Sunday, May 19 the weekly sign language brunch discussion is from 10:30 a.m. to noon, followed by The Not 2 Cool Jazz Trio from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The annual meeting for the New Deal cooperative will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. From 5 to 7 p.m. the Fez Tones Hafla provide live Middle Eastern music and dance, with musicians playing the oud, darbuka and riq.

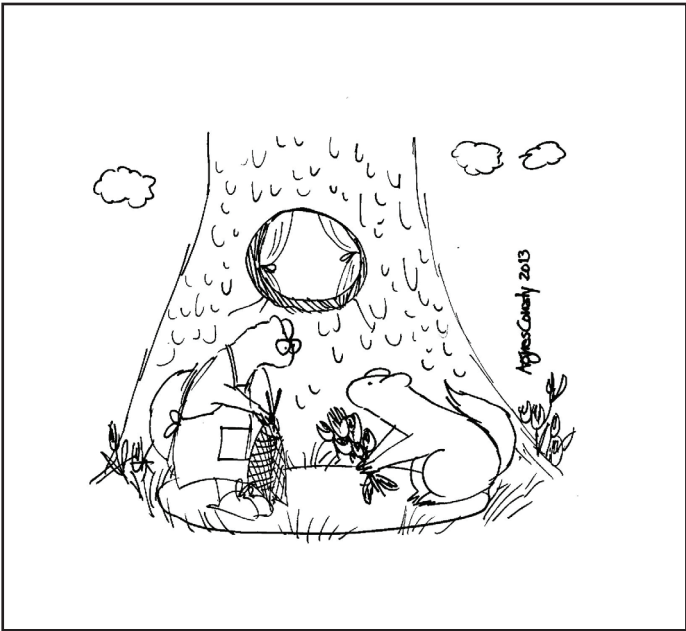
Next Week

On Tuesday, May 21 the monthly poetry open microphone night will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. The Cajun Music Jam is on Wednesday, May 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, May 23 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., followed in the evening by an open microphone session with the Songwriter’s Association of Washington from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, May 24 begins with pianist John Guernsey playing classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then Fast Eddie & the Slowpokes follow with a blend of Chicago, swing and jump blues from 8-11 p.m.

On Saturday, May 25 Greg Meyers’ Community Jazz Jam session will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. John Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed by a Cold Hard Cash tribute to Johnny Cash from 8 to 11 p.m. Sunday, May 26 the weekly sign language brunch discussion is from 10:30 a.m. to noon, followed by Medium Gauge playing folk rock from 5 to 8 p.m.

Grin Belt



"I know it's late and I picked these from your garden but it's the thought that counts!"

Greenbelt Named “Playful City USA”

The City of Greenbelt earned its seventh straight year of recognition by national nonprofit KaBOOM! as a 2013 Playful City USA community for efforts to give children ample opportunities and locations for play.

Reasons for this award included a soon-to-be-created Recreation Department website which will permit user engagement and have interactive features. The new website will accept input on city-related topics such as recreation program offerings and allow users to set

up their own online dashboard to stay informed.

Playful City USA communities are also eligible for grants of \$15,000, \$20,000 and \$30,000 through Let’s Play, a nationwide community partnership of the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group to get kids and families active. Recipients of those grants will be announced in the fall.

For more information on the KaBOOM! Playful City USA program, including Let’s Play grants and applications for 2014, visit www.playfulcityusa.org

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Correction

Following the May 9 front-page budget article on the Meals on Wheels Program, organizational representatives pointed out we had misreported both the cost and frequency of the meals. To correct the record, meals for Meals on Wheels are delivered five times per week and cost \$5/day or \$25/per week. For more information about Meals on Wheels call 301-474-1002.



GUTTER CLEANING

Gilbert General Contractors will begin spring gutter cleaning on May 20, 2013.

The first week of work (May 20-24) will be in the approximate area of:

1 Court Ridge and 1 Court Crescent, up to Southway Road.

During that time, workers will be on ladders around buildings. Please close your window shades to preserve privacy.

You may contact Peter Joseph at (301) 474-4161 ext. 141 if you have any questions or comments.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF MAY 17

The Great Gatsby
(PG-13)

FRIDAY
*4:45, 7:45

SATURDAY - SUNDAY
*1:30, *4:45, 7:45

MONDAY – THURSDAY
*4:45, 7:45

*These shows at \$6.50
Tuesday is Bargain Day.
All Seats Only \$5.00.
Now accepting Visa, Discover and MasterCard for tickets and concessions
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition “Food and Friendship” program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for May 20 through 24 are:

Monday – Apple juice, baked chicken breast with Mexican sauce, rice pilaf, green cabbage, diced peaches.

Tuesday – Split pea soup, turkey salad, tossed salad, fresh fruit.

Wednesday – All sites closed for Senior Health and Fitness Day.

Thursday – Pineapple juice, vegetarian chili, brown rice, green peas, fresh fruit.

Friday – Apple juice, barbecued chicken thigh, baked beans, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit.

At the Library

Read to Rover

Saturday, May 18, 2 to 3:30 p.m.: Children ages 6 to 11 build confidence by reading aloud to specially trained therapy dogs. Each child reads for 15 minutes. Registration is required, with walk-ins accepted on a space-available basis; register in person or by calling 301-345-5800.

Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props. Pick up a free ticket from the information desk before the session.

Wednesday, May 22, 10:30 a.m.: Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years.

Thursday, May 23, 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

For more information visit the Greenbelt Library, call 301-345-5800 or visit the library system website at www.pgcmlls.info for a number of library services, to review accounts or renew materials. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-3111.

Grades 2, 3 Take On Aight Dance Troupe

On Friday May 17 students from the second and third grade classes at Greenbelt Elementary School will visit the Community Center to see rehearsals of Aight Dance Theater’s “Stargazing” and learn about the night sky.

“Stargazing” tells the story of the starry night from the death of a star to the splendor visible from one’s own backyard. After the performance, the children will participate in visual arts and dance workshops to explore the concepts introduced.

The program follows a similar successful program in April for 80 first graders from Springhill Lake Elementary School.

Lakeside North Apts Saturday Yard Sale

On Saturday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Lakeside North Apartments will hold a yard sale open to the Greenbelt community. There will also be a moon bounce, entertainment and BBQ cook-out.

Boxwood Scholarship Applications Accepted

The Boxwood Village Civic Association is offering an annual \$500 scholarship to a resident who lives in Boxwood Village. The scholarship is available to graduating high school seniors and full-time undergraduate students (taking at least 12 credit hours per semester). The deadline for completing and returning the application form is June 30.

The scholarship is partially funded through the proceeds from the Boxwood Booth at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. A scholarship committee of five Boxwood Village residents selects this year’s recipient.

For details or an application call Jean Cook at 301-345-2597 or Judy Ott at 301-474-0222.

Shad Fry not Small Fry for Local Students

On May 3, Greenbelt Elementary School students joined other local children in releasing shad fry that they had raised in the classrooms back into the Anacostia and Potomac rivers. American shad, a pivotal indicator species of clean water and a historical staple within the Chesapeake’s ecosystem, began to disappear from the area in the 1970s due to pollution and clogged waterways. In recent years, students from Greenbelt Elementary School have helped harvest the eggs of the American shad to raise in student-built hatchery systems within the classrooms.

As part of the “Schools in Schools” program, biologists at the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin guided students through the process concluding with the shad fry’s release into local rivers. In recent years, the program has added an estimated 300,000 native shad into the ecosystem, with the help of students and educators of both Greenbelt and the larger D.C. area.

Greenbelt Grants Awarded for 2013

The year 2013 brought a few changes to the usual grants awarded Greenbelt. The city expects a \$137,400 federal grant for the Safe Route to Schools program, and \$20,000 from the state MDOT Bikesharing. The state will also award a \$380,000 grant to help with the Old Greenbelt Theatre renovations.

While the federal government provided \$8,000 toward submitted juvenile delinquency proposals in 2011 and \$23,000 in 2012; it will provide none for 2013. Additionally, C.M. Turner grants, including those for the Youth Service Bureau and Get Active Greenbelt have not been awarded. Greenbelt has received over \$5,000 from the Turner grants each since at least 2009. The requested National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant of \$100,000 was denied, as was a similar request from 2010.

GCAN Discusses Climate Changes

On Tuesday, May 21 at 7 p.m. the speaker at the Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN) meeting will be Dr. Wil Candler with an address he titles “I Used to Worry About My Children, Now I Worry About Myself.”

On May 9, the atmosphere hit 400 ppm of CO₂ evidencing an acceleration of carbon-related climate change.

Dr. Candler will discuss positive and negative feedbacks in the context of the carbon cycle and in particular the vast amount of sequestered carbon that may be mobilized. There is evidence that some processes are proceeding significantly faster than projected by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change models. If time permits, he may also talk about the nuts and bolts of “putting a price on carbon.” He will accept questions for clarification during the talk.

In 2007, Dr. Candler published a book, “Global Warming: The Answer,” available from Amazon. He obtained his Ph.D. in agricultural economics and completed his undergraduate work at Massey in New Zealand [from Iowa State]. Dr. Candler taught at the University of New England in Australia, at Massey University and at Purdue. He is currently retired in Annapolis after finishing a career with the World Bank.

For more information email Lore Rosenthal of GCAN at lore@simplicity-matters.org or call 301-345-2234.

My Barber’s 1-Year Anniversary Bash

On Saturday, May 18 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. My Barber’s Studio, 8831 Greenbelt Road, Cipriano Square, will hold a celebration of its first anniversary in business with a Customer Appreciation Day at the shop to which the community and elected officials are invited. The elected officials are expected between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

There will be food, drink and discounted services for those attending.

G12 Buses Provide Late-Night Routes

Metro’s eastbound G12 bus line which operates from Greenbelt to New Carrollton has added two late-night routes Monday through Friday. The G12 arrives at Greenbelt Metro Station at 10:55 p.m. and stops at Ivy Lane and Ridge Road at 11:01 p.m. and at Roosevelt Center at Crescent and Gardenway at 11:12 p.m. The last G12 bus of the evening leaves Greenbelt Metro at 11:35 p.m. and makes stops at Ivy Lane and Ridge at 11:41 p.m. and at Roosevelt Center at 11:52 p.m.

Metro’s westbound G16 bus also has added a late run that serves the stop at Crescent and Gardenway normally served by trips going to New Carrollton. The G16 leaves Roosevelt Center at Crescent and Gardenway at 11:13 p.m. and stops at Beltway Plaza at 11:20 p.m. and reaches Greenbelt Metro Station at 11:25 p.m. This late-night route does not serve regular G16 stops east of Southway.

The Bus

Seniors and Customers with Disabilities **RIDE FREE**

Lakeside North Apartments YARD SALE

Saturday, May 18

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Picnic Area

Food and Games.

Moonbounce for Kids.

Raindate: May 25

301-474-1974

430 Ridge Road,
Greenbelt

www.lakesidenorth.com

Garden Club to Meet Wednesday, May 29

On Wednesday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m. the Greenbelt Community Garden Club will meet in Room 114 at the Community Center for a first reading for the club Garden Health Guide. There will also be a report from the Garden Boundaries Committee and discussion of a proposed seed/plant swap.



ACADEMY STADIUM THEATRE

6198 GREENBELT ROAD

CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA

301-220-1155

Most features are \$5.00

all day on Tuesdays

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

Tickets are now on sale for:

The Hangover 3 at 10 p.m.

Wednesday 5/22

Regular Engagement Starts

Thursday 5/23

Fast and Furious 6 at 10 p.m.

Thursday 5/23

Regular Engagement Starts

Friday 5/24

WEEK OF MAY 17 FRIDAY – TUESDAY

Pain & Gain, R

10:40, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

Peeples, PG-13 (!)

11:30, 12:05, 2:10, 2:45, 5, 5:30, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 10

Star Trek: Into the Darkness in 3D, PG-13 (!)

10:30, 1:15, 4, 7, 9:50

Star Trek: Into the Darkness in 2D, PG-13 (!)

11:15, 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10

Iron Man 3 in 3D, PG-13 (!)

11:10, 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10

Iron Man 3 in 2D, PG-13 (!)

10:45, 11:45, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7, 8, 9:45

WEDNESDAY

Pain & Gain, R

10:40, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

Peeples, PG-13 (!)

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Iron Man 3 in 2D, PG-13 (!)

10:45, 11:45, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7, 8

The Hangover 3, R (!)

10

THURSDAY

Iron Man 3 in 2D, PG-13

10:45, 11:10, 1:30, 1:55, 4:15, 6:55, 7:25, 9:50

Iron Man 3 in 3D, PG-13 (!)

4:40, 10:10

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Fast & Furious 6, PG-13 (!)

10

The Hangover 3, R (!)

11:55, 2:30, 5:15, 7:40, 10

More Community Events
can be found throughout
the paper.



Greenbelt Arts Center COMING SOON

Eugene O'Neill's



May 24 - June 15

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm

Sunday Matinees (June 2 and 9) at 2:00pm

Ticket prices: \$17 General Admission \$14 Students/Seniors/Military

\$12 Child (under 12)

For information & reservations,
call 301-441-8770 or email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Take our GAC Patron Survey at
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FYJS9FK>

Coming Soon to the Greenbelt Arts Center:
June 21st – An Unexpected Guest

Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Obituaries

Memorial Tree Planting For Nicole S. Brown

In loving memory of Nicole Susanne Brown who died January 27, 2013 (see obituary in January 31 issue), a memorial tree will be dedicated on Nikky's birthday Friday, May 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the field on Ridge Road near the top of Lastner Lane.

Anyone who would like to come is welcome. Anyone with a song to share is asked to bring their instrument or voice and those with a memory of Nikky to bring their words.

Food and drink will follow at Ginger's house on Lastner Lane.



Florence Abel

Florence Catherine Harris Abel (Flo) died on Thursday, May 9, 2013.

Mrs. Abel was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on December 28, 1941. She obtained a masters of social work degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus in 1972 and did forensic social work early in her career, as well as working as a psychotherapist in a mental hospital. She was a pioneer in professional Christian counseling from early Bruce Naramore days and was a co-founder of Billy Graham Association-recommended Christian Counseling Associates in Columbia, Md. She served on many boards and contributed to changed lives through her long professional career as a licensed clinical marriage and family counselor.

She was predeceased by her parents Wilber Fiske and Melda (Beitzel) Harris and her grandparents Henry and Cynthia (Snyder) Beitzel.

Mrs. Abel is featured in Who's Who in America and authored two books: The Beitzel Family and The Shadow of His Hand. She retired in 2009.

Mrs. Abel is survived by her husband, Dr. David Lynn Abel of the home. They celebrated their 30th anniversary in January 2013.

Other survivors include her sister Joan Griffith; a sister-in-law, aunt, great-aunt, godmother and friends.

A funeral service will be held Sunday, May 19 at 2:30 p.m. in the Newman Funeral Homes' location at 179 Miller Street, Grantsville, Md., with interment in the Bittering Cemetery.

A local service here will be held on Tuesday, May 21 at 8 p.m. at College Park Wesleyan Church, 4915 Edgewood Road, North College Park, Md.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy be sent to: GTO Family Ministries, 2436 Haskell Dr., Antioch, TN 37013 or to Wycliffe Bible translators at: Ministry of Ron Metzger #121013, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862.

Condolences to the family may be sent to www.newmanfuneralhomes.com.

Muriel Patterson

Former resident Muriel J. Patterson died May 8, 2013, in Gaithersburg.

Mrs. Patterson was born in 1914 and raised in Michigan, where she taught elementary school in Cadillac before retiring in 1985. She moved to GHI in 1996 and moved to Asbury Methodist Village in 2011.

Mrs. Patterson is survived by two children, Marilyn Hummel of Gowen, Mich., and Jack Patterson of Greenbelt; five grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.



A memorial service will be held at the Boyds Presbyterian Church, 1901 White Ground Road, Boyds, Md., at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 15, with a reception and celebration of her life following the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donation to the Asbury Foundation (www.theasburyfoundation.org).



Our sympathy to Jack Patterson, family and friends on the death of former resident Muriel Patterson, who retired from teaching in Michigan and lived in Greenbelt for over a decade before moving to Asbury Methodist Village in 2011.

Condolences to Dr. David Lynn Abel, family and friends on the death of his wife Florence Catherine Harris Abel.

Condolences to the friends and family of longtime Greenbelter Vera ("Kitty") Barnes, 87, who died May 9, 2013. She was a member of the Golden Age club and Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church.

Our sympathy to Greenbelt's Prince George's County Councilmember Ingrid Turner on the death of her mother, June Turner, at Collington.

Congratulations to:

- Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Preethi Rajaguru, who was selected to "shadow" Prince George's County Councilmember Ingrid M. Turner for District 4 (which includes Greenbelt) on Student Shadow Day May 7.
- Janet Parker, who has been informed that Berkeley (Ca.) based publishers released a book of poems, "Star-Thistle & Other Poems" written by granddaughter Lisa Summers of Sonoma, Ca. Meanwhile, great-granddaughter Sarah Summers, attending UCLA and her band the Streat Hearts have won the school's Battle of the Bands, earning the chance to perform in front of thousands at the Jazz Reggae Festival in Los Angeles on May 26 and 27. The Streat Hearts will open for Common and Ziggy Marley. Lisa's mother Marsha Parker grew up in Greenbelt.

Early St. Hugh's priest Rev. Robert Amey, now a Monsignor, was in the news recently. Now the pastor of historic St. Mary's Church in Rockville, he was quoted in the May 11 issue of The Washington Post about the increasing number of visitors to the church cemetery to see the graves of F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife Zelda, inspired by the new movie The Great Gatsby. Father Amey served over a decade in the 1960s and 70s as assistant to the pastor at St. Hugh's, his first assignment. On a return visit some years ago, he told of his joy on learning, as a newly ordained priest, that he was being sent to "that Shan-gri-la" of Greenbelt.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We'd especially like to hear more from neighbors in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West (Franklin Park). To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at news-review@verizon.net or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland



WSSC Family Fishing Derby

Reel in the prize-winning fish at the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Annual Family Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 18 at Triadelphia Lake Recreation Area in Brookeville. This catch-and-release event will include prizes and plenty of fish tales for first-timers and fishing veterans both. Possible catches include largemouth and smallmouth bass, white perch, sun fish, blue gill and crappie.

Located at 2800 Triadelphia Lake Road, the derby begins at 9 a.m., with the final weigh-ins at noon. Prizes will be awarded in child and adult categories. Additional information on fishing licenses and rules is available at www.wsscwater.com. The recreation area will also be available all day for picnicking and playground fun.

Register for the fishing derby by phone at 301-206-8240 or by email saugust@wsscwater.com.

Bowie Museum Hosts Kids Kaboose

Children ages 1 to 11 are invited to attend the Kids Kaboose at the Bowie Railroad Museum. Come for free railroad fun on Tuesday, May 21 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information call 301-575-2488.




Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

Sunday at 10 a.m.
Rev. Diane Teichert
See our website: www.pbuuc.org



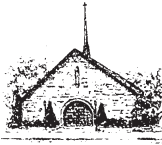


Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH
101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301)474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org
11:00am Worship Service

Christianity and The Problem of Evil
Wednesday, June 5th
7:30pm
Speaker: Pastor Mike Christ
Join us for a lecture and discussion

May 19th
"How God Restores His Broken People"
May 26th
"God's People United in Hearing God's Word"
June 2nd
"God's People United in Obeying God's Word"

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe



Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Clara Young, Interim Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
Worship Service 10 a.m.




St. George's Episcopal Church
Join us around a table where all are welcome!




Services

- Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org



BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740



Worship : Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)
Sunday School: Sun 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Office Hours : Mon, Thu, Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Tue, Wed 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"



Congregation Mishkan Torah
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building
ALL ARE WELCOME.



City Information

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF May 20-24

Tuesday, May 21 at 7:30pm, COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/a Contribution Group at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road.

Tuesday, May 21 at 8:00pm COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Confidential Information at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov. **PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY 20th.**

Wednesday, May 22 at 7:30pm, ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD, in Room 114 of the Community Center.

Wednesday, May 22 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION re: Final Budget Review** at the **Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.** *This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.*

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Youth Advisory Committee
For information call 301-474-8000.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN THAT GREENBELT CAMPS HAVE TO OFFER!

There are still openings in these fun and exciting summer day camps.

KINDERCAMP: Full and half day programs are available for the youngest campers ages 3-5. Camp activities include music, arts and crafts, games, water play, yoga, physical activities and other recreation- based activities.

CREATIVE KIDS CAMP: An arts based camp for ages 6-12. Campers enjoy a variety of classes such as drama, music, dance, art, ceramics, and puppetry. They also go swimming twice a week and perform in the play, Hurcules and Hippolyta at the end of each session.



CAMP PINE TREE: Ages 6-12
Enjoy a jam-packed schedule and a friendly staff that always show they know the meaning of fun! Offers opportunities in sports, crafts, field games, and a variety of unique, age-appropriate challenges and experiences. Campers attend at least one field trip or special event per session, receive instructional swim four times per session, and free swim two times per session.

YOUTH ON THE GO (Camp YOGO), Ages 12 – 14
Camp YOGO participants will typically leave the camp site approximately three times each week on a variety of fun-filled trips. Trips will include water parks, amusement parks, nature adventures, laser tag, professional sports games, and several other trips geared toward this age group. Campers will also complete several community service projects throughout the summer. If you are looking to keep your pre-teen or teen on the go this summer, this is the camp for you.

Download the Camp Brochure at
www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation or
call 301-397-2200 for more information.

Bike to Work Day 2013

Friday, May 17 from 6:30am-8:30am

Greenbelt Pit Stop at the
Greenbelt Aquatic &
Fitness Center

biketoworkmetrodc.org
Register by May 10th

bike to work day
2013

NATIONAL PARK TRUST
NATIONAL
KIDS TO
PARKS
DAY
MAY 18, 2013

National Kids To Parks Day-Saturday, May 18

BRADEN FIELD
12:00pm-2:00pm: Archery
Demo at Braden Field #2
- FREE!

Youth and Adult Archery classes are quickly becoming a very popular Greenbelt Recreation Department activity. Bring the family and join us as our certified National Archery Association instructors provide guidance on the various skills in archery. Participants will also have the opportunity to register for upcoming youth and adult archery classes.

YOUTH SPORTS ACTIVITIES

9:00am-5:00pm: Boys & Girls Club Soccer Games
Schrom Hills Park.

10:00am Greenbelt Baseball Game, McDonald Field.
(Park at Municipal Building)

SCHROM HILLS PARK

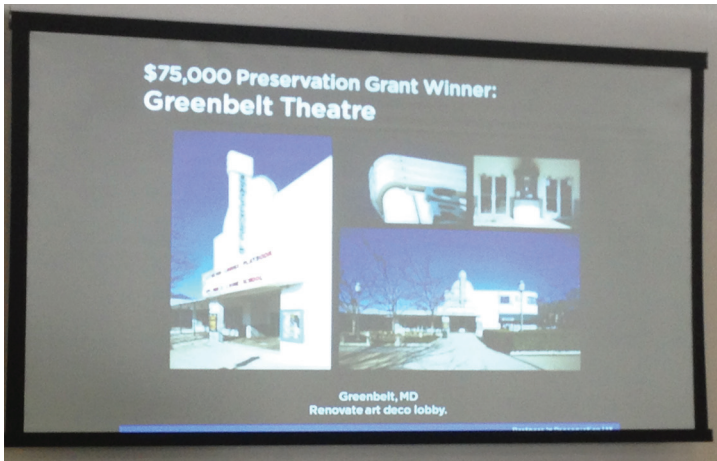
“Kite Flying Contest” On Softball Field
3:00pm- FREE!

Bring your best kite out to Schrom Hills Park as the Greenbelt Recreation Department reintroduces an old tradition, a Kite Flying Contest. Awards will be given to the winners in several categories including highest kite, best design, etc. This event is open to all ages.

GARDENS/FOOD FOREST EVENTS:

“Getting Schrom Hills Hot-Season Ready”
9:00 AM — 12:00 PM

Getting the garden ready for summer! Lucy Duff and Jean Newcomb, co-coordinators of this site, will be hosting a planting of some hot-season companion plants according to the new garden design. Location: Schrom Hills Park Garden, 6915 Hanover Parkway. Contact: Lucy Duff, 301-577-2350 or 202-549-5574



Thank you to the Greenbelt Community, friends and supporters of the Greenbelt Theater for participating and voting in the Partners in Preservation campaign. Because of your efforts, the city has been granted \$75,000 towards the preservation of this historic theatre. Congratulations!

Stay in touch with the City of Greenbelt! Visit Greenbelt CityLink at www.greenbeltmd.gov, Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt, Follow us @cityofgreenbelt on Twitter.

BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU!

The Greenbelt Recreation Department would like to thank those that donated at the Blood Drive held on Friday, May 3 at the Greenbelt Community Center. 28 pints of blood was collected and since each pint of blood saves 3 lives; there is the potential to save the lives of 84 hospital patients in our area. For more information, please contact Rebekah Sutfin at 240-542-2056 or rsutfin@greenbeltmd.gov.

Our next sponsored blood drive at the Community Center is Friday, August 16.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 10-508(a)(1) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a Closed Session of the City Council will be held on Monday, May 20, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Library of the Municipal Building.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss a Personnel Matter.

Cindy Murray CMC,
City Clerk

HAVE YOU VISITED THE GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER LATELY?

550-A Crescent Road
(behind Police Station)

Give us a call
301-474-6124

Come out and visit all of the available pets! The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment. See all our pets on Facebook!



June was trapped with her mom. She was a feral girl who wanted nothing to do with people. Well she's changed her mind. She LOVES to be hugged and snuggled. She will head butt your hand until you give in. She is around 4 months old.

REC. BUDGET continued from page 1

CRIME continued from page 1

committee.

Last but hardly least, McHale cited the ongoing support provided by recreation staff of the city’s 75th anniversary celebration, for which the city council expressed particular appreciation. The council also recognized that half of the professional recreation staff is now certified by the National Recreation and Parks Association, a larger percentage than any other recreation and parks department in Maryland.

McHale also noted updates to facilities. At Braden field, tennis courts 1 to 4 were resurfaced and courts 1 to 8 were lighted. The first phase of renovations to the Springhill Lake Recreation Center was completed. Five new treadmills also were purchased for the GAFC.

McHale said that even with fewer staff the department is getting the job done but she stressed that trying to do more with less is taking a toll on both the staff and on facilities.

Programs

Answering council questions, Varda explained that although drop-in basketball continues to attract regular players, efforts to run spring men’s and women’s leagues at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and a men’s winter league have not been successful. The downturns in the economy for parts of the period are one possible cause.

Councilmember Silke Pope encouraged sending the announcement postcards for the seasonal activity guide in both English and Spanish to Franklin Park, including instructions for obtaining a hard copy. Major Judith Davis added that a park ranger had suggested more park signs should be bilingual. Several councilmembers encouraged revamping the design of the annual Easter egg hunt to allow more space for younger children and better crowd control.

Council was interested in the new marketing committee established last fall. McHale said the group includes a representative from each building, meets monthly and has revamped the activity guide. It is now looking at expanding use of social media and another group is revising content on the city website.

Pope suggested that not all toddler classes should be scheduled for weekday mornings since it prohibits working parents from taking advantage of programs with their children. According to Varda, others have raised the issue and the department is already planning to make changes in the fall.

Playing Fields

Regarding the availability of soccer fields, McNeal noted that there is continued demand for space from the Soccer Alliance and the Girls and Boys Club and that only limited space continues to be available. He said they are evaluating the fields in the city in order to maximize use. They have applied to use space at Greenbelt Elementary School. The fields at Greenbelt Middle School, however, will not be a possibility until at least spring 2014. In response to a question from Councilmember Emmett Jordan, he said the county department of education fields at the end of Mandan Road are included in its survey and are used for soccer. Herling asked about field maintenance. McNeal

said many fields are not in great shape; because of demand, the city does not have the luxury of letting fields rest.

Facilities

McNeal described changes that have been made at the GAFC to comply with American Disabilities Act requirements, some of which will be completed when the indoor pool closes in August. Leases, emergency plans and reservations for use of facilities and park areas were also touched upon.

Davis noted that the aging of facilities looms large among issues confronting the city and the department. With tennis court work completed, McNeal said the gym floor at the Youth Center will soon have to be replaced, HVAC system work is needed at the Community Center and he anticipates that the 22-year-old roof on the GAFC will need to be replaced in Fiscal Year 2015.

Playground Surfacing

Although Public Works is responsible for playground maintenance, Jordan raised issues that have arisen lately from parents about the safety of the recycled shredded rubber used to surface some of the playgrounds. The concern appears to be about the materials and chemicals included in recycled tires. Putens said parents have reported staining on children’s hands from the dye on the mulch and suggested the possibility that even though the product may have been deemed safe nationally, some of the material may be defective or below grade. Roberts said he thinks the poured-in-place rubber surfacing is safer and that, although it is more expensive initially, it lasts much longer. Originally scheduled as an item for discussion at the May 13 regular council meeting agenda, the council agreed that it needed to be scheduled first for a worksession.

Financial Aid

Jordan asked why the financial aid provided for camps and other youth programs was so much greater for central Greenbelt than for Greenbelt East or West. McHale said they believe it is largely an issue of residents not being willing or able to submit the required financial information. She said the city has begun to accept different forms of proof of financial need, as well as not retaining copies of materials once staff has seen them, as a way of simplifying the process.

Recreation Centers

The computer lab at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, which has been open for a year, has proved quite popular. Drop-in attendance is mostly by children and teenagers. Classes have been offered through SAGE and Greenbelt CARES.

Rental revenue is down for FY13 at the Community Center, the Youth Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center due to the cancelling of the Jazzercise program and church rentals. The computer lab occupies some former rental space at Springhill Lake as well.

GAFC

Numbers of resident and non-resident passes sold at the GAFC have remained fairly constant. No fee increases are proposed for the upcoming year since pass fees and class fees were increased in the current year and daily admissions were increased in Fiscal Year 2010. Non-resident fees are already higher than those of other

Police

The bulk of the public safety budget goes to the police department. Proposed expenditures of \$9,650,200 are minimally changed from the adopted FY13 budgets. Projected FY13 expenditures are an average of 1.9 percent. McLaughlin’s budget proposes no changes in department staffing or in the number of command officers.

The budget proposes purchasing five Ford Interceptor sedans as replacement police vehicles at a total cost of \$175,000.

In his opening presentation, Craze told council that crime was up “just a bump” and way behind the trend elsewhere. Violent crime is trending down, with Greenbelt falling below the state average and down 23 percent over the last five years. Property crime, however, is up, driven by theft mostly in local shopping centers.

Over the past five years, robbery is down. During that period 47 percent of robberies occurred in Greenbelt West, 38 percent in Greenbelt East and 15 percent in the city’s core. For the first time that he can recall, the chief said the crime trend is down in Greenbelt West (Franklin Park and Beltway Plaza). For the second year, he said, no homicides took place in the city.

One downside, however, is the city’s clearance rate for crimes, which Councilmember Leta Mach pointed out was lower than the rate for both the state and the county. Craze attributed this to victims’ reluctance to follow through and to witnesses not wanting to “snitch.”

Even at the point where a case goes to court, he said, witnesses may not show up. In 2011 the closure rate for crimes was just 11 percent, down from 19 percent in 2008. Even a victim who had been shot six times declined to testify, Craze noted.

Service Calls

Calls for service also declined significantly, he said, from 41,524 in 2008 to 33,840 in 2012. Craze attributed the decline to the department’s au-

competing jurisdictions.

Camps

Looking at the Greenbelt’s Kids programs, Davis commented that some were doing well, some not. Varda spoke about the impact of the economic downturn but said enrollments appear to be moving back up. Camp fees have not been raised for the last three years but this year will see a five percent increase. Varda said there is much more competition for camps than there used to be. Getting adequate non-resident enrollments is essential.

Anticipation

Council was pleased to hear that the New Deal Café’s long-standing debt to the city for use of the Community Center kitchen is to be paid off in the first quarter of FY14.

Councilmember Edward Putens encouraged starting to develop outreach plans now for new residents who may be moving into the South Core of Greenbelt Station as early as next spring. He suggested that material be developed about city programs, services and amenities that can be placed at the onsite trailer that should be open for sales sometime this summer.

tomation, which has eliminated duplication. Calls for service dropped from 47,313 in 2010 to 29,024 in 2011 but rebounded somewhat in 2012.

Auto theft is down 52 percent over five years, he said though he felt that improvements by car manufacturers deserve most of the credit.

Council also discussed the vexing issue of graffiti and Davis asked what officers are doing about “Big Tom.” Craze said police are not going to catch this persistent miscreant without cooperation from the community.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked about installing cameras in the underpasses to deter graffiti. Craze said that he would not recommend it, calling it an unnecessary expense as incidents are too intermittent.

Personnel

On the subject of personnel, Craze noted that 15 of the 55 officers are eligible to retire this year. By next calendar year, 19 officers will be eligible to retire. He said the department continues in order to stay ahead of a potential exodus. One possibility, he said, is “the civilianization of some positions.”

One civilian position Craze would like to establish in the short term is an automation or systems manager to help the department make maximum use of the tools that it has been able to acquire, largely through grants. He specifically mentioned computer-aided dispatch and records management and a need to help evaluate potential new technology.

Craze said that such a position would not need to be in the police department nor necessarily an IT position. It would need, however, to be dedicated to concerns of the police department. He stressed that he was not criticizing the city’s IT department but rather recognizing the extensive needs of the police department.

Mike Lanier, vice president of the Greenbelt Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, urged that if positions are civilianized, the number of sworn officers should not be reduced. He also

requested that promotion testing be held for officers this year. City Treasurer Jeff Williams told council that if testing needs to be done, it will be done.

Currently the city is undertaking an organizational assessment. Craze hopes it will evaluate the need for more patrol officers, the need for a deputy chief to ensure continuity when the chief is not available, a possible reorganization of the department and the civilianization of the public information officer position.

When Councilmember Konrad Herling asked if Greenbelt had more officers per resident than other municipalities in the county, Craze declined to answer. He said the number of officers needed varies by the needs of the community.

Red-Light Cameras

Red-light and speed cameras are projected to generate \$450,000 in revenue and cost \$301,000. Craze confirmed Mayor Judith Davis’s comment that red-light cameras can now be used to detect right turns on red without a stop. While council appeared intrigued at this possibility, the subject was not discussed in depth.

During the next year, the department also will be looking into some further technological improvements, including digital fingerprinting and some form of personal camera system that officers could wear. Options include cameras on glasses or officers’ collars.

Future

Prompted by Davis, Craze said the current police facility is too small. Written budget comments state that there is inadequate office and storage space in the facility. They say that when the current building was constructed, funding issues caused “certain areas within the building to be downsized from the original plan.”

Now, according to the budget statement, the department “has simply outgrown its available space.” At the meeting, Craze said the building was built to allow future expansion. Another option, he said, would be to look for offsite office space.



8th Annual Rivers to Rockets Bike Rally

Explore the Tributary Trail System and the history, culture, and nature of the surrounding communities with Maryland Milestones & Proteus Bikes!

**May 25
10am - 2pm
Duvall Field, 9200 Rhode Island Avenue,
College Park, MD**

**Register online at:
www.marylandmilestones.org/bike-rally**

And don't miss the first ever
"Roosevelt Ride - A Vintage Picnic and Bicycle Tour"
May 26, 11am - 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD



GNS 5K Tortoise and Hare Run Day Is a Family Affair

by Li'l Dan Celdran

Greenbelt Nursery School (GNS) hosted its annual 5K Tortoise and Hare Race and 1K Family Fun Run on April 27 to promote a healthy lifestyle for all ages and to raise money for the school scholarship fund.

The 5K race began at 8 a.m. and the weather could not have been better – sunny, with a slight breeze and dry. The run, a USA Track and Field-certified flat loop course, started at the Greenbelt Skate Park and ended at the Greenbelt tennis courts. Participants could either run or walk. Runners ran twice around beautiful Greenbelt Lake on a well-maintained path.

The 1K Family Fun Run started at 9 a.m., beginning and ending at the ball fields behind Greenbelt Youth Center. Then at 9:15 a.m. a new event also began – “Base Running for the Li'l Ones,” in which young kids and their families raced around the bases of the Greenbelt ball field.

Donated prizes were then awarded to the top three male

and female 5K runners and the top male and female in different age categories. Delicious, plentiful refreshments were served.

The school also offered a “Couch-to-5K” training program to all pre-registered participants to aid training. Many participants were experienced runners; others completed a 5K race for the first time.

The event provided an opportunity for GNS families and staff (present and former) to visit. The event went smoothly, thanks to the Prince George’s Running Club and school volunteers.

Greenbelt Nursery School is a cooperative school for young children from Greenbelt and surrounding communities. The school’s cooperative provides parents with a special, rare opportunity to participate in their children’s first educational experiences.

More information is available at www.greenbeltnurseryschool.org or by calling 301-474-5570.

Li'l Dan Celdran is a GNS member and the race director.

THEATRE

continued from page 1

ccraze@greenbeltmd.gov.

Beverly Palau, city public information and communications coordinator, said of the award to Greenbelt, “This social media exercise proved to be the perfect venue for the City of Greenbelt. This city is very well connected with its Facebook Pages, listservs, blogs and community spirit. I knew we would do well in this program.”

The top vote getter was the National Cathedral which has been awarded \$100,000 for its projects with 1,386,990 points. The remaining money was allocated among other participating sites having been chosen by a committee of Washington-area civic and preservation leaders to apportion the remaining funds. Several other participating sites also received grants.

“The D.C. Metro region has shown a true sense of community through its spirited support of their local historic places,” said Timothy J. McClimon, president, American Express Foundation, one of the corporate sponsors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “We hope the Partners in Preservation funding is just the first step in ensuring that these cultural sites are accessible for many years to come.”

Green Man Festival Is a Hit



PHOTOS BY ERIC ZHANG

Dorian Winterfeld makes an appearance as a Green Man at the Green Man Festival held on May 11 and 12 at Roosevelt Center.



Trin Holder paints the face of Caelan Donovan, 5, at the Festival which this year coincided with the opening of the Greenbelt Farmers Market.

Help keep the GREEN in Greenbelt!

These are just a few of the great buys you will find at Co-op this week!

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| 26 | | | | | | |

121 CENTERWAY-ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Visit us online at www.greenbelt.coop

SUPERMARKET

Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522

PHARMACY

Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.


Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400

Closed Sunday

Greenbelt

CO-OP

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| Fresh Quality Meat | | Farm Fresh Produce | | Dairy | Frozen | Seafood | |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| Fresh Value Pack \$1 ⁹⁹ Boneless & Skinless Chicken Breasts | | Fresh Picked 30¢ Sweet Corn ear | | Imperial 89¢ Vegetable Spread 1 lb. quarters | Turkey Hill \$2 ⁵⁰ Ice Cream Assorted 1.5 qt. | Fresh Catch \$6 ⁹⁹ Skinless Haddock Fillets | |
| Fresh Value Pack \$2 ⁹⁹ 85% Lean Ground Beef | | Fresh Nutritious \$1 ⁴⁹ Broccoli Crowns | | Yoplait Assorted \$1 ⁰⁰ Greek Yogurts 5-6 oz. | Lean Cuisine \$2 ⁵⁰ Select Entrees 6-12 oz. | Wild Caught \$9 ⁹⁹ Orange Roughy Fillets | |
| Eskay 98¢ Meat Franks 1 lb. pack | | Red Ripe \$3 ⁹⁹ Seedless Whole Watermelon each | | Shurfine \$2 ⁵⁰ Pure Butter 1 lb. quarters | Stouffer's 3/\$8 ⁰⁰ French Bread Pizza Assorted 10-12.5 oz. | Frozen \$7 ⁹⁹ Snow Crab Leg Clusters | |
| Grocery Bargains | | | |  Spring | Grocery Bargains | | |
| Maxwell House \$2 ⁹⁹ Ground Coffee Select Varieties 10.5-11.5 oz. | | Campbell's 98¢ Original. Pork & Beans 11 oz. | | | Mueller's Assorted 77¢ Spaghetti or Macaroni 12 oz. | Francesco Rinaldi \$1 ⁰⁰ Pasta Sauces Asst. 16-24 oz. | |
| Thomas <small>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</small> English Muffins Select Varieties 6 pack | | Sweet Baby Ray's <small>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</small> Barbecue Sauce Assorted 18 oz. | | | Utz Assorted <small>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</small> Potato Chips 9.5-10.5 oz. | Maier's <small>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</small> Italian Bread 20 oz. loaf | |
| Deli | | Bakery | | Natural & Gourmet | Health & Beauty | Beer & Wine | |
| Deli Gourmet \$4 ⁶⁹ Tavern Ham | | Fresh Store Baked \$1 ⁴⁹ Hamburger or Hot Dog Rolls 8 pk. | | Vigo Spanish 99¢ Yellow Rice 12 oz. | Eagle 99¢ Value Pack Toothbrushes 3 pack | Cupcake \$8 ⁹⁹ Wines 750 ML | |
| Alpine Lace \$8 ⁹⁹ Swiss Style Cheese | | Fresh Store Baked \$2 ⁹⁹ Cherry, Apple or Blueberry Pie 8-inch | | Old Cape Cod \$1 ⁴⁹ Salad Dressings Asst. 8 oz. | Pharmacy 99¢ Pill Box each | Natural Light \$4 ²⁹ Beer 6 pk.-12 oz. cans | |

Check out our **best buy \$avings** on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the green **best buy** shelf tags in all departments.

We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Other great weekly specials are featured in our 6-page full color ad flier inserted in your News Review.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department,
<http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame
to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Burglary

May 4, 1:57 p.m., 100 block Westway. Electronics and clothing were taken.
May 7, 2:07 a.m. 6000 block Springhill Drive. Currency was taken.

Vehicle Crime

A Jeep Cherokee taken from the 6100 block Breezewood Court was recovered by D.C. Metropolitan police. No arrests were made.
A 2000 Pontiac reported stolen by Prince George's County police was recovered in the 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. No arrests were made.
A GPS unit and a diamond ring were taken from a vehicle in the 5900 block Cherrywood Lane. Sets of tires and rims were taken from vehicles on the 200 block Lakeside Drive and on Crescent Road at Southway. [A photo of the latter taken by Bill Cornett appeared in the May 9 issue of the News Review on page 8.]
A vehicle in the 7700 block Lakecrest Drive was scratched, possibly by a person known to the owner. A windshield was damaged in the 8000 block Mandan Road.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Call 1-866-411-TIPS. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

Overpass Project Needs Volunteers

The Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church is seeking volunteers for its Cookies at the Bridge project that began several years ago to address concerns of rumors about violence and gang fights on the GHI side of the Spellman Overpass after school.
The project has been very successful in handing out cookies and assuring adult presence at the bridge in the afternoon; however, over time the small volunteer force has dwindled so that regular daily presence is becoming difficult to arrange. At the most recent council worksession, Mayor Judith Davis encouraged other organizations to help with the project. The mayor herself comes out when she can to welcome students crossing the bridge from 3:10 to about 3:45 p.m.
Anyone who can help provide coverage to staff Cookies at the Bridge is asked to call the church at 301-474-9410 to leave their name and number so project coordinators can call them back.

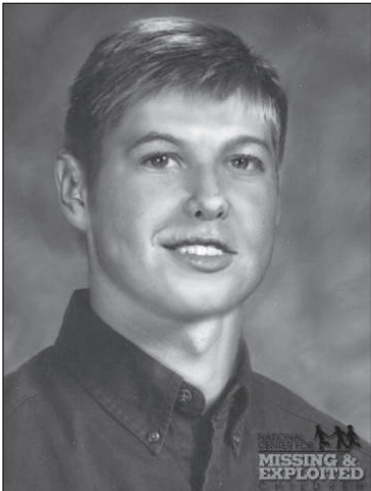
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Help Find Area Child Missing for 20 Years

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, as part of its campaign to locate long-missing youngsters, is asking for public help to locate George Burdynski, Jr., missing since May 24, 1993, from Brentwood, Md.
Burdynski was 10 years old at the time of his disappearance and would now be 30. He is a white male who was 4' and weighed 60 lbs. at the time of his disappearance. He was last seen riding a small red bicycle at approximately 4:30 p.m. and was wearing a blue shirt and green shorts. He has a scar on the right side of his face above his mouth and his hair is blondish-brown.
The public is asked to call 1-800-843-5678 (THE-LOST) with any information they have about the disappearance or current whereabouts of Burdynski. Calls are confidential and can be made anonymously.



Age Progression by NC-MED1/15/2009



Birth: 7/29/1982
Missing: 5/24/1993
Age Now: 30
Race: White
Sex: Male
Hair: Blonde
Eyes: Brown
Ht: 4'00"
Wt: 60 lbs.

HALL RENTALS (CATERING)

Luncheons–B'Day Parties–Anniversaries–Weddings
Greenbelt American Legion Post 136
6900 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, Md.
301-345-0136
managerpost136@comcast.net
Contact Steve Messer

Greenbelt Baseball

Major League Standings as of May 12

| National League | | American League | |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| | W-L | | W-L |
| Cardinals | 9-0 | Tigers | 5-5 |
| Giants | 7-1 | Athletics | 3-5 |
| Cubs | 7-1 | Indians | 2-9 |
| Nationals | 1-7 | Orioles | 1-7 |

Major League Schedule May 20 through 25

| Date | Time | Games |
|------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday, May 20 | 6 p.m. | Tigers vs. Orioles |
| Tuesday, May 21 | 6 p.m. | Cubs vs. Giants |
| Wed., May 22 | 6 p.m. | Cardinals vs. Athletics |
| Thursday, May 23 | 6 p.m. | Nationals vs. Orioles |
| Friday, May 24 | 6 p.m. | Athletics vs. Tigers |
| *Friday, May 24 | 6 p.m. | Cardinals vs. Cubs |
| Sat., May 25 | 10 a.m. | Rain Make-up (if any scheduled) |
| Saturday, May 25 | 1 p.m. | Cubs vs. Nationals (make up game) |

Most games are played at McDonald Field off Southway.
*Game played at Braden #2.

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GDC & GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, May 23rd, 2013

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

GDC Key Agenda Items:

- 2013 First Quarter Financial Statements
- Contract for Supply of Electricity for GDC Accounts

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Certification of Election by Chair, N&E Committee
- Board Reorganization and Election of Officers
- Code of Ethics Acknowledgement
- Appointment of Member Complaint Panels
- Designation of GDC Stockholders
- Board Meeting Procedures
- Set Summer and Fall Meeting Schedule
- 2013 First Quarter Financial Statements
- Review Revised FCMA Stewardship Plan
- Contract for Supply of Electricity for GHI Accounts
- Request for a Contribution from Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee
- Parking Lot Repair Contract, 2nd Reading
- Underground Utility Repair Contract, 2nd Reading

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop



To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

College Park Farmers' Market

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New farmers attending this year.*



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“Occupy Love” Is Next Reel & Meal Film

On Monday, May 20 at 7 p.m. the next film in the Reel & Meal at the New Deal series will be “Occupy Love,” about a revolution of the heart that is erupting around the planet, in which Director Velcrow Ripper seeks to answer the question, “How could the crisis we are facing become a love story?” A special vegan buffet will be available for purchase at 6:30 p.m. before the film.

Occupy Love explores a growing realization that the dominant system of power is failing to provide health, happiness or meaning. The old paradigm concentrating on one’s wealth is facing economic and ecological collapse. The resulting crisis has become the catalyst for the awakening of millions of people who are deciding “enough is enough – the time has come to create a new world that works for all life.” The film connects the dots in the rapidly evolving social change, featuring insider scenes from the Egyptian Revolution, the indignado uprising in Spain, Occupy Wall Street in New York, Indigenous activists at the Alberta Tar Sands and the climate justice movement. Woven through the backbone of the film is an exploration of public love, with stories of an emerging new paradigm. The movie includes visionaries on alternative systems of economics, sustainability and empathy and includes well-known figures Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben, Jeremy Rifkin, Bell Books and Charles Eisenstein.

The discussion following the film will be led by members of the local Sacred Economics group.

For more information email Susan Barnett at susnbarn@earthlink.net.

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Emergency Preparedness

How to Keep an Adequate Supply Of Canned, Dry Food on Hand

by Kenneth Silberman

The last emergency preparedness article was on frozen and refrigerated food. To be fully prepared for an extended power outage, there should also be least a three-day supply of ready-to-eat, nonperishable foods on hand.

It should include canned foods, dry mixes and other staples that do not require refrigeration, cooking, water or special preparation. Choose foods the family is willing to eat and remember any special dietary needs. Emergency supplies should avoid foods that cause thirst; select canned foods with high liquid content. Include ready-to-eat canned meats; fruits; vegetables; protein or fruit bars; dry, whole-grain cereals or granola; peanut butter; dried fruit; nuts; salt-free crackers; canned juices; nonperishable pasteurized milk; high energy foods; vitamins; comfort/stress foods; as well as food for infants. The emergency supplies kit should have a manual can opener and hand sanitizer.

Infant Food
Baby formula should be ready-to-feed or, if that is not possible, it is best to use bottled water to prepare powdered or concentrated formula. If bottled water is not available, use boiled water or, less desirable, treated water.

Breastfed infants should continue breastfeeding.

Commercially canned food can be eaten from the can without warming. If warming, remove the label. Thoroughly wash and disinfect the outside of the can with a diluted solution of one part non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to 10 parts water and open the can before heating. Other alternative emergency cooking and heating sources are candle warmers, chafing dishes, fondue pots or fireplaces. Remember that due to poisonous gases they create, charcoal grills and camp stoves are for outdoor use only.

Don’t eat foods from cans that are swollen, dented or corroded, even if the product looks safe. Don’t eat any food that looks or smells abnormal, even if the can looks fine.

Remember that once a can is opened and the seal broken, its contents will go bad if unrefrigerated. Foods that have been at room temperature for two hours or more can be contaminated and should be discarded. Discard any food with an unusual odor, color, texture or that has come into contact with contaminated floodwater.

Keep food in covered containers and be sure that cooking and eating utensils are clean. It is important to use hand sanitizers to keep hands clean or wash them frequently with soap and water that has been boiled or

disinfected.

To be safe, remember, “When in doubt, throw it out.”

For more information about food safety during an emergency, visit <http://www.foodsafety.gov/> and <http://www.ready.gov/food>. For more information about Greenbelt-CERT, go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/greenbeltcert>.

Kenneth Silberman is the Greenbelt Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordinator.

CPAE Has Kids’ Arts Drop-Ins

Two College Park Arts Exchange (CPAE) children’s Arts Drop-in programs will be led by Aaron Springer on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday, May 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. The Saturday Drop-in is at the College Park Community Center, 5051 Pierce Avenue; the Sunday workshop is at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park. The project for this week is Crazy Kites.

These free creative arts workshops are for children ages 3 to 8, accompanied by a parent.

For more information email info@cpae.org or call 301-927-3013.



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MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE – Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain date May 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 5 Court Laurel Hill Rd. Cotton quilting fabrics, 20 gal. fish tank with supplies, large battery operated train, push lawn mower, books, jewelry, toys, games, dishes, music CDs and much more.

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YARD SALE – Boxwood Village, corner of White Birch Ct. & Hedgewood Drive, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Glassware, toys, TV/VCR, pet stuff, wall tapestries, moped, electronic stuff, computer equipment, puzzles, Roomba, books, perfumes, clothes, bread maker and more good stuff. See you then.

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Large shed on back lot for remodeling with modern kitchen and front storage addition. Lots of landscaping.
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Rear addition for office and office space. Full bath on first floor and ceramic tiles. Close to Roosev. Center.
SOLD

Remodeled 2 BR GHI Townhome
Recessed lighting, custom molding, modern kitchen, refinished flooring, ceramic tile and more! \$106,900

Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center

CLUB125 continued from page 1

May 19. Members who want to stay after 9 p.m. may be able to get a key, Boyce said.

“A lot of technology-people hate the sunlight,” Boyce explained.

Strollers to Seniors

The club’s opening at 125 Centerway, the former location of Greenbelt Cleaners & Tailors, which closed in January 2012, brought in a spectrum of ages. It drew curious children, from infants in strollers to 6-month-old Leo Shorlin, who showed up with a pink leopard-patterned hat. It also caught the attention of teenage robotics enthusiasts, as well as adults like Robert Madson, who constructed the electric train cam.

One of its youngest tech fans had a hard time waiting for the club to start. In April, 7-year-old Ob Cooler chased Boyce down in Roosevelt Center, reported his mother, Wendy Cooler. She said he was yelling, “George, George, George,” and then said, “I’m Ob, when is it going to open?”

Ob wasted no time once the club’s doors opened. On opening night he sat on the floor, snap, snap, snapping Snap Circuits, a toy that teaches electronics while mentoring a young girl in engineering 101.

“Press the button,” he instructed 5-year-old Linnea Jenkins, who had been watching him for clues as she started to snap pieces together.

Before delving into electronics, Linnea had been playing with a dollhouse but that all changed once she got her hands on the Snaps, said her mom, Piri Jenkins.

Outside the door, teenage members of Team Illusion, a local robotics group based in the Lanham area, worked on the four-wheel drive train of their star robot. The rest of their invention had not yet made it home from St. Louis after a recent FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) there.

The actual robot is five feet tall and weighs 120 pounds, reported Dawn Buckley, Team Illusion mentor and mother of 16-year-old team member Joe Buckley.

“It shoots Frisbees,” she said.

Fourteen-year-old homeschooled student Reed Bolger explained that the team had won Rookie All-Star at the local level and then competed in Missouri with teams from other countries before being eliminated.

Club125 also caught the interest of senior citizens hanging out in Roosevelt Center, who were interested in classes on social media and security issues, Fallon said. They had a particular interest in Facebook.

“People have grandkids and want to be able to interact with them,” she said.

The club will offer media classes once Comcast installs a high-speed business network, Fallon said. She estimated it would be up and running in June.

Shared-Space Co-op

Boyce and Fallon hope to organize the club into a coop-

erative. If it is successful, they said, they want its members ultimately to determine the shape it takes. GreenSTEMs, a nonprofit founded by Boyce and Fallon in 2010, now is doing business as Club125 and will help with fundraising, grant writing and seeking corporate sponsorships, Boyce said.

The club’s initial membership meeting probably will take place on the first Monday in June, Boyce said. One of the top agenda items will be to set fees. But this month people can stop in for free. Even once the club starts charging fees, he added, it plans to host free open houses on Monday nights.

Outside organizations also can rent part of its facility, as the club intends to share space. Visitors who come to take part in renters’ activities won’t pay fees to the club, Boyce said.

A board game and card-playing group called Cazual Magic has already taken the club up on its offer to rent space and held its first meeting on Saturday. It plans to open to the public on June 1. Games are slated for Saturdays from noon until 10 p.m. and will include pizza from Generous Joe’s for sale along with snacks and drinks.

Admission will be \$5, of which \$3 can go toward food and drinks or game-store purchases, according to Cazual Magic owner J.D. Whitney.

Though the group may offer an array of games, it will likely focus on collectible card games (CCGs) like Magic: The Gathering, Whitney said. The group tends to attract adults but they have a “huge open-door policy” to people of all ages and all skill levels, he added.

In 2004, Whitney started a game group in Rockville that attracted around 50 people weekly, he said.

People had been telling him he should open his own space, so when game group member and Greenbelt resident Dan Fischler mentioned Club125 to him, Whitney decided it was time.

Another Renter

The environmental group Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS) will also rent space in the club. It is scheduled to begin holding a permaculture design class there on May 25 that will run through November, Boyce said.

Putting a label on the facility’s activities is no easy task; it wants to be a place for electronics, movies, technology, science labs, social media courses and crafts from woodworking to fabric arts.

Perhaps a kindergartener from Friends Community School put it best. He had stopped by during a scavenger hunt in Roosevelt Center on the Monday the club opened. When Fallon told him about the things he could do there, the child had exclaimed, “So we make stuff.”

Turning to Boyce, Fallon said, I think he just came up with our tagline – “Let’s make stuff.”

Two ERHS Teachers Earn Distinction Amongst their Peers in the County



A number of teachers from Eleanor Roosevelt High School were honored at the April 22 Greenbelt City Council meeting. From left to right: Councilmembers Edward Putens, Konrad Herling and Leta Mach; teachers Crelisa Rivera and Lisa Yearwood; Mayor Judith Davis, Councilmembers Silke Pope, Emmett Jordan and Rodney Roberts. Rivera and Yearwood received certificates from the council in recognition of achieving certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The two were among the first group of teachers in Prince George’s County to merit this voluntary, advanced teaching credential, a rigorous, peer-reviewed process ensuring that board-certified teachers have proven skills to advance student achievement.

Students Garden Organically At Greenbelt Elementary School

by Anne Gardner

Greenbelt Elementary School’s fifth graders will be eating well this spring – peas, radishes, carrots, strawberries, lettuce, cabbage and broccoli – all grown by the students in their own school garden. They will not only be eating more healthily, they will also be helping to keep the watershed clean by using good gardening methods.

Fifth-grade teacher Vanessa Zanin has teamed up with Michele Touchet, from the Friends of Still Creek, to create an organic garden in the school’s courtyard and to educate the students about keeping the watershed clean.

In December the students took a field trip with Touchet, walking to Indian Creek. There they learned about the problems of runoff from artificial fertilizers from residents’ yards and littering and how these can affect the watershed. The students also discussed re-purposing and reusing items they have around the house instead of throwing them away or buying something new.

The fifth graders played a recycling game using the City of Greenbelt’s guide to what they can and can’t put in their recycling bins.

Aruba Trip

This outing was followed by another classroom visit from Touchet to share pictures of her recent trip to Aruba. There she found many non-tourist beaches covered in trash, caused by ocean currents that had brought trash ashore and from littering. She and her husband had filled



Michele Touchet supervises 5th graders Zion Albright, Cyza Tejano and Ireti Fabumni in the construction of the garden.

their rental car with litter so they could dispose of it properly.

Zanin said the students “have become aware of their impact on the environment and now they want to pick up trash everywhere they go.” Walking to the Community Center for a field trip recently, she said, students asked if they could pick up trash along the way.

Inspired by their new knowledge about how they should not hurt the water, students now understood that the garden they were planning for the courtyard had to be organic. Zanin and Touchet successfully applied for the Jim Cassels Community Service Award grant from the Greenbelt Co-operative Supermarket. The \$1,000 grant covered the cost of Touchet’s school visits as

well for raised beds, topsoil, seeds and everything else they needed to create the garden.

Student Work

The students assembled the three raised beds, one for each class and planted seeds and plants. Zanin said she chose fruit and vegetables that could be harvested before school lets out in June so the students could see the whole process, from planting to tasting. In the fall, she said, they will plant Swiss chard and kale.

Zanin says she takes the students out to the garden at least twice a week to water and look after the garden. Local artist Lucy Dirksen has applied for a grant from Prince George’s County Arts and Humanities Council to work with the students on botanical

drawings. Zanin also has noticed other grades using the courtyard more than they used to, now that they can visit the garden.

Zanin has many more plans for the future. She would like to plant a herb garden, she said, and perhaps include some plants that can be used for dyeing. She also would like to install a bat box in the courtyard and to compost food scraps from the school kitchen.

Meanwhile the students are seeing the whole process of planting a seed and watching it grow into something they can eat. They are also learning valuable lessons about protecting their environment and eating healthier food. Some students have even started their own gardens at home, inspired by their work on the school garden.

Greenbelt is a great place for kids!